

ROYAL'S LAST RESTING PLACE

Councilman Robathan Views the Sights in London.

VISIT TO WESTMINSTER ABBEY

Our Wandering City Father's Pilgrimage to England's Great City—A Day Spent in Viewing the Historic Spots in London—The Tower, St. Paul's and Other Relics of Past Ages Are Inspected.

Special Correspondence.

LONDON, Aug. 27. AFTER spending two weeks in visiting the principal cities of interest in the interior of England and Wales, it is but a fitting climax to what has been a trip of much pleasure and enjoyment to pass a few days in this, the city of all cities. It was with a feeling of expectancy that I alighted from the railway carriage at Paddington a few mornings ago after an all night's ride from Swansea. It was not the massiveness of the structure or the excitement attending the incoming and departure of trains that caused me the slightest uneasiness, for we have stations equally as large in our own state, with quite as many trains arriving and departing daily, but it was the thought that I was entering what is recognized the world over as being the king city of the universe and that among the thousands of faces that passed me there was not one that I knew. It is a strange sensation that comes over one when you realize that out of 5,000,000 souls there is not one that you can take by the hand and call him friend.

Of course the feeling is but momentary and is soon lost in the excitement that is produced by your desire to visit the historical spots which are scattered in which London abounds. There are so many of these places around which there hovers memories of ancient days that to one whose time is limited it is rather a difficult matter to select which are the most interesting. Having but three days that I could devote to London, I at once, after securing permanent quarters, started out to see the sights.

AT HISTORIC ST. PAUL'S. St. Paul's cathedral was my first stopping place. It is a fine old building that impresses you with its size and its immense dome, which can be seen from most parts of the city. It is of the Italian-Roman style of architecture and is considered to be the masterpiece of Christopher Wren. I was somewhat disappointed in the appearance of the interior. It is no way compares with the external in grandeur of design. If the artistic decorations be taken as an evidence of the condition of art in England at the time it was built, I cannot help but entertain a very poor opinion of it, for with but one exception there are none of the decorations worth mentioning, and that one is the carved woodwork by Gibbons in the choir. This is truly a work of art.

Many eminent persons are buried here under the mighty dome, among them being Wren, himself, and the entrance to the choir are these words in Latin: "If you would behold his monument, look around."

From St. Paul's by bus to Westminster abbey gives you an idea of the busy section of London. It takes you by Ludgate hill, past the old Temple Bar, and the present to the choir, where the Charing Cross to the houses of parliament. There is a certain feeling of reverence that comes over you as you approach the abbey. It is not the magnificence of the building or its architectural recollections with which it is impregnated. The first sight of it brings to mind a host of associations of a more stimulating character than any beauty of architecture is able to produce. Here is where the most famous of England's kings have been crowned; here is where they rest, waiting the final call that will summon them to appear before the King of all Kings. For many centuries England has placed here all that remains mortal of her greatest men, her scholars, warriors, poets, scientists; in fact persons in all stations of life whose memory the world would not willingly let die, until underneath all most every foot of ground there is interred the body of the greatest mastermind on account of its being here. Space will not permit me to give a detailed description of the abbey, so it is my intention to refer only to a few of the most interesting parts.

INSIDE WESTMINSTER ABBEY. In viewing the external appearance of the building you cannot help but admire the rich and elaborate chapel of Henry VII, forming the eastern extremity of the pile, also the north transept, formerly called Solomon's porch, on account of its being here all the many domestic buildings, with the remaining of the old monastery. As you enter the interior through the western door you are at once amazed by the magnificence and grandeur with which you are surrounded. The high ceiling and beautiful columns and arches, the choir and the eastern window with its odd engravings, which when the sun shines through it, produces all the colors in the rainbow. Probably the most popular spot in the abbey is the poet's corner. The thousands that visit the building daily spend more time in this particular portion than all others combined, and the strange part of it is that the least pretentious in the way of sculpture of all the sections. Here lies the ashes of those who in life they have probably never seen and yet have been their companion for years. As you sit down on the old fashioned bench that is provided for visitors, you gaze at the busts of those who have not become famous by their deeds of valor and chivalry, but who have left heritages that are as rich as any that have been gained by blood and violence, you seem to feel as though you were actually conversing with them. In this small, and yet large, corner, the most interesting part of the whole abbey, so with a feeling of regret you leave the presence of those whom you feel to be friends and savor on to the rear of the choir where rests the royalty of bygone days. Beneath the monument which speaks, if ever stone did speak, of the simplicity and comparatively rude

magnificence of the Anglo-Saxon times to which it belongs, rests the body of Edward the Confessor, and what a circle of dead monarchs surround him! Henry III, Edward I, Edward II, Richard I and Henry V and Queens Eleanor, Philippa and Anne of Bohemia, and near by are the coronation chair, the history of which carries you so far back into the ages that what is before you seems all like a dream. And as you walk around reading the inscriptions to these mighty monarchs of the past the words of the English poet come to mind and make you feel as though you would like to get out once.

While thus in state on buried kings you tread, And swelling robes sweep spreading o'er the dead, While from a god you cast your eyes around, Think then oh, think you walk on treacherous ground, Though firm the chequered pavement seems to be.

Though surely open and give way to thee. Much more might be said concerning the points of interest in the old abbey, but time and space will not permit. From the abbey I went to the houses of parliament, the tower, Bank of England and to the evening to the Olympia, to see Kraly's "Constantinople," which is on the same large scale as was the "America" at Chicago last year. Regent's park, Earl's court, Zoological gardens and Madame Tussauds, took up the greatest part of the following day. Then a drive today to Hampton court, a distance of fourteen miles by bus, stopping at Kew gardens for tea, terminated my visit to this great metropolis.

My friend, the coal magnate, is rusticated in South Wales and I expect that by the time I get back to where he will have closed negotiations for the purchase of the whole of that little island; at any rate he was thinking seriously as to how it could be done when I left him ten days ago.

E. E. ROBATHAN.

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

Stocks and Bonds. The range of today's prices for the active New York stock market are given below. The quotations are furnished by The Tribune by G. D. Dimmick, manager of the New York and Co. stock brokers, 412 Spruce street, Scranton.

Stocks	Open	High	Low	Close
Am. Oil	3.94	3.94	3.94	3.94
Am. Sugar	10.94	10.94	10.94	10.94
Am. T. & E.	1.94	1.94	1.94	1.94
Can. Pac.	1.94	1.94	1.94	1.94
Chesapeake & Ohio	2.94	2.94	2.94	2.94
Ch. & N. W.	1.94	1.94	1.94	1.94
C. & O.	1.94	1.94	1.94	1.94
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